

Message Text

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ORIGIN TRSE-00

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-14 ISO-00 STR-06 AGRE-00 CEA-01
CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 FRB-01 H-02 INR-07
INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 CTME-00
AID-05 SS-15 ITC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 SOE-02
OMB-01 DOE-11 /122 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 011837

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, GATT, PK

SUBJECT: QUESTIONS FOR PAKISTAN BOP CONSULTATION

REF: GENEVA 430

FOLLOWING ARE QUESTIONS WE PROPOSE FOR DISCUSSION IN GATT
BOP CONSULTATIONS WITH PAKISTAN. ANY COMMENTS FROM
ISLAMABAD SHOULD BE SENT ACTION GENEVA INFO SECSTATE:

1. HAVE THE TARIFF INCREASES OF 1976-77 AND 1977-78 HAD AN
AMELIORATING EFFECT ON PAKISTAN'S BOP DIFFICULTIES?
 2. HAVE REMITTANCES FROM PAKISTANI WORKERS ABROAD CHANGED
RECENTLY BY ENOUGH TO MAKE AN APPRECIABLE DIFFERENCE IN
YOUR BOP PROJECTIONS? WHAT HAS BEEN THE EFFECT ON PAKIS-
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TANI EXPORTS OF THE RECENT RISE IN SOME COMMODITY PRICES,
PARTICULARLY RICE?

3. PAKISTAN'S IMPORT LICENSE FEE APPEARS TO BE A VIOLA-
TION OF ARTICLE II OF THE GATT IN THAT IT IS NOT COMMEN-
SURATE WITH THE COST OF SERVICES RENDERED. WOULD THE
PAKISTANI DELEGATE COMMENT ON THIS OBSERVATION?

4. WHAT ACTION IS THE GOVERNMENT PLANNING IN 1978 WITH REGARD TO EXTENDING OR REDUCING ITS USE OF QUANTITATIVE IMPORT RESTRICTIONS?

5. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF PAKISTAN'S MARGIN REQUIREMENTS FOR OPENING LETTERS OF CREDIT? ARE THEY INTENDED TO RESTRICT IMPORTS OR FOR OTHER PURPOSES?

6. DOES THE GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN PLAN TO CONTINUE LIBERALIZING ITS TRADE REGIME IN THE 1978/79 IMPORT POLICY PROGRAM? IF SO, WILL THE GOVERNMENT USE FOR THIS PURPOSE THE EXHAUSTIVE LIST OF BANNED IMPORTS WHICH WE UNDERSTAND HAS RECENTLY BEEN COMPLETED? WHAT ARE THE PROSPECTS FOR ELIMINATING THE TIED LIST? CAN THE PAKISTANI DELEGATE PROVIDE THE GATT SECRETARIAT WITH COPIES OF THE FREE LIST, THE TIED LIST, AND THE BANNED LIST?

7. WHAT ARE THE GOVERNMENT'S PROJECTIONS FOR THE INFLATION RATE IN THE CURRENT YEAR? DOES THE GOVERNMENT BELIEVE THAT FURTHER LIBERALIZATION OF THE IMPORT REGIME WOULD HELP IN RESTRAINING INFLATION?

8. DOES THE PAKISTANI GOVERNMENT HAVE ANY LONG-TERM PROGRAM UNDER WAY WHICH WOULD LEAD TO A SIMPLIFICATION OF IMPORT PROCEDURES AND GREATER RELIANCE ON TARIFFS, RATHER UNCLASSIFIED

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THAN NONTARIFF MEASURES, TO REGULATE TRADE?

9. THE RUPEE NOW IS PEGGED TO THE DOLLAR. HAS THE RECENT DECLINE IN THE DOLLAR HAD A BENEFICIAL EFFECT ON PAKISTAN'S BALANCE OF PAYMENTS? WOULD THERE BE AN ADVANTAGE TO PAKISTAN IN REALIGNMENT OF ITS EXCHANGE RATE AS AN ALTERNATIVE TO IMPORT RESTRICTIONS? -

10. DOES THE GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN PLAN ANY CHANGES IN COTTON AND RELATED INDUSTRIES AND IF SO, WHAT ARE THEY?

11. IF PAKISTANI DEL RAISES PROBLEM OF TEXTILE QRS: DOES THE PAKISTANI DELEGATE HAVE ANY FIGURES TO SHOW HOW INTERNATIONAL TEXTILE TRADE RESTRAINTS ARE AFFECTING PAKISTAN'S ECONOMY?

12. PAKISTAN'S DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY EMPHASIZES IMPORT SUBSTITUTION, RELYING ON CAPITAL-INTENSIVE PROJECTS FINANCED BY FOREIGN BORROWING AND TAXES ON TRADE. THE PAKISTAN CONSORTIUM RECOMMENDED REDUCED DEPENDENCE ON EXTERNAL REVENUE SOURCES AND MORE MOBILIZATION OF DOMESTIC RESOURCES. DOES PAKISTAN CONSIDER THAT THIS SUGGESTION OFFERS

A WAY TO BETTER PROMOTE ITS DEVELOPMENT WHILE FURTHER
LIBERALIZING ITS TRADE POLICY? CHRISTOPHER

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